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Message Text

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61
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

PC-01 TRSE-00 /060 W
---------- 113586
R 011615Z MAR 75
FM AMEMBASSY QUITO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4642
INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 1462

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT EC
SUBJECT: TRANSFER OF POWER DURING PRESIDENT'S ABSENCE

1. PRESIDENTIAL SPOKESMAN CARLOS AGUIRRE ANNOUNCED FEBRUARY 28TH THAT PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ, DEPARTING SUNDAY MARCH 2 FOR THE OPEC SUMMIT CONFERENCE IN ALGIERS, WILL LEAVE DEFENSE MINISTER GENERAL MARCO ALMEIDA IN CHARGE OF THE GOVERNMENT DURING RODRIGUEZ' ABSENCE.

2. FROM A CONSTITUTIONAL STANDPOINT, POWER SHOULD THEORETICALLY HAVE GONE TO MINISTER OF GOVERNMENT, NAVY ADMIRAL POVEDA. PASSING OVER POVEDA TO LEAVE ALMEIDA IN CHARGE, WITH A PRESUMABLY TRUSTED (NEWLY APPOINTED BY RODRIGUEZ) GENERAL MOREJON AS AIR FORCE CHIEF, THUS LEAVES THE ECUADOREAN ARMY FIRMLY IN CONTROL DURING THE PRESIDENT'S ABSENCE.

3. THE PRESIDENT IS TAKING WITH HIM AIR FORCE GENERAL (AND CHIEF OF THE ECUADOREAN JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF) JORGE IZURIETA, THUS LEADING TO SPECULATION THAT BOTH (PRESENTLY THE EQUIVALENT OF BRIGADIER GENERALS) WILL BE PROMOTED TO GENERALS OF DIVISION (PRESUMPTIVE EQUIVALENT OF MAJOR GENERAL). BOTH ARE PRESENTLY OUTRANKED BY SEVERAL OTHER MEMBERS OF THE RULING JUNTA, INCLUDING ALMEIDA. PROMOTING THEM IN THEIR ABSENCE WOULD RESOLVE THE STICKY PROBLEM OF
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THEIR APPEARING TO PROMOTE THEMSELVES. HIGHLY UNLIKELY

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THAT ANYONE WILL BE FOOLED ANYWAY.
BREWSTER

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NNN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 01 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: johnsorg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750072-1084
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Subject: TRANSFER OF POWER DURING PRESIDENT'S ABSENCE
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, OVIP, EC, (RODRIGUEZ LARA, GUILLERMO A), (ALMEIDA JATIVA, MARCO A)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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